

GRASS

See
Notes from Miss Mildred See ^{died July 1935} -- Toronto.

Jacob and Katrina Zee from Holland (Knickerbocker Dutch) were originals of See family to settle in North America (Mespaul, Long Island, 1670). They later moved to New Amsterdam. Then they moved up the Hudson River to Sleepy Hollow (scene of Rip Van Winkle and Ichabod Crane - now Tarryton, New York).

When Revolutionary War broke out, the See family fled to New York as they were Loyalists. When Captain Michael Grass convoyed the British Ships bearing Loyalists around by the Atlantic Ocean to Sorel, Quebec (November 1783) they were with him. In the spring of 1784 this party reached Kingston, which Captain Grass founded. In the party were the Sees, Swarzes (Michael Grass' wife's family), the Ashleys, Harpers and the Grasses.

Capt. Michael Grass was an Englishman who lived along the Hudson River. He fought for Britain in the Seven Years' War ⁽¹⁷⁵⁵⁻⁶³⁾ and was taken prisoner at Ft. Frontenac. Here, he was held for some years until the Revolutionary War broke out. When Sir Guy Carleton became Governor of New York, to protect the Loyalists, he sent word to Grass asking him if he would convoy these ships carrying Loyalists around by sea to British territory, which he did in 1783.

(2).

Capt. Michael Grass, U.E. m.Swarze, U.E.
 their dtr m. Col. John(?) Harper, U.E.
 Elizabeth Harper, m. Geo. Ashley, U.E.
 from Ashley, N. Carolina.

~~(they confiscated 2,500~~
~~acres to be Loyalists)~~

Catherine Ashley,

m. David See, U.E.
 (descendant of Jacob
 and Katrina, mentioned
 in foregoing).

What
 does
 this
 mean?

Stewart See, their son m. Sarah Maria Kendall

Their children --

Mary See -- m. Jas. H. Rutherford of Albion

Russell See -- m. Edith Newlove of Macville, Later Malton
 (Albion, Cdn.4 Lot 12)

Francis Albert -- m. Lavinia Baxter of Caledon.

SEE - GRASS

MHM

Jacob and Katrina Zee from Holland (Knickerbocker Dutch) were originals of the See family to settle in Mespaud, Long Island, 1670). They later moved to New Amsterdam. They then moved up the Hudson River to Sleepy Hollow (scene of Rip Van Winkle and Ichabod Crane), now Tarryton, New York.

When Revolutionary War broke out, the See family fled to New York as they were Loyalists. When Captain Michael Grass convoyed the British Ships bearing Loyalists around by the Atlantic Ocean to Sorel, Quebec (November 1783), they were with him. In the spring of 1784 this party reached Kingston, which Captain Grass founded. In the party were the Sees, Swarzes (Michael Grass' wife's family), the Ashleys, Harpers and the Grasses,.

Capt. Michael Grass was a native of Germany, a saddler and harness-maker by trade, and for years worked at his trade in Philadelphia. He fought for Britain in the Seven Years' War (1755-63) and was taken prisoner at Fort Frontenac. Grass was not confined to the fort but allowed to hunt, fish etc. Once he escaped but was brought back. Again he attempted to escape along with 2 other prisoners; it was 9 weeks before they reached an English settlement, one prisoner having died from hunger and exposure. It was the knowledge which

Grass had acquired of the territory ~~sixthousand~~ while a prisoner which led to his appointment to the leadership ~~sixthousand~~ of conveying the band of refugees. When Sir Guy Carleton became Governor of New York, to protect the Loyalists, he sent word to Grass asking him if he would convoy seven ships carrying Loyalists around by sea to British Territory. It does not appear that Captain Grass occupied any office in the army during the Revolution. His captaincy commenced upon his leaving New York with the vessels for Canada. By virtue of his captaincy he was entitled to draw 3,000 acres. He drew his land in Kingston and Sidney.

Grass was a man of excellent character and possessed some education. He was appointed Magistrate at an early period, and as such performed many of the first marriages in Kingston. Member Church of England. Probably brought up Lutheran. His old "Dutch" Bible still is read by an old German in Ernestown.

Michael had 3 sons and 3 daughters. The sons were Peter, John and Daniel.

Michael was married to one of the Swarzes. One of his daughters married Colonel Harper; their daughter married George Ashley, and their daughter, Catherine, married David See (all U.E.'s whose families were in the party convoyed by Michael).

Michael lived to an advanced age and died at his son John's home in Kingston, a victim of cancer in the face

(3)

David See was a descendant of the Jacob & Katrina Zee already mentioned. He was a young man when he came over with the Loyalist party, and settled in Lancaster where he died in 1822. One of his sons, John, served in War of 1812 with Glengarry Regt. of Militia. Another son, Stewart See, married Sarah Maria Kendall and their children are connected with Peel as follows ---

Russell See married ~~Edith~~ Edith J. Newlove, daughter of James Harvey Newlove a life-long ~~resident~~ resident of Macville. The Sees are living at Malton (1935) on the old homestead of the Hon. James C. Aikens, M.P.P.

Mary See, married James Hamilton Rutherford, well-known family of Albion twp.

Francis Albert See, married Lavina Baxter of Caledon.

NOTE:

Another Michael Grass served as a Private with Butler's Rangers during the Revolution. When the Corps was disbanded he went to the States to look after his aged parents. This Michael Grass came to Canada in 1801 with his family and purchased land in Grantham twp. where he died in 1812 from sickness

(4)

contracted while on service in War of 1812.

Michael did not receive land from the ~~XXXXX~~ Crown as the U.E. list was formed before he returned to Canada.

His children were as follows -- Henry, David, Jeremiah, Michael and John, also a ~~son~~ daughter, Mary.

Under Order-in-Council dated 1819, 300 acres of land were located in Caledon twp., in the name of Michael Grass, late of Grantham, deceased, but this was found unfit for cultivation and cancelled.

See inform in
trap books - below.

Toronto Gore Township
See

* Lot 6 Con. 7. S.D. - 1 Dec 1925 Edith Jane See 102 ac

* Lot 6 Con. 7. S.D. - 9 Sept 1929 Edith J. See 97 ac. \$1.00 ac.

FAMILY HISTORYCaptain Michael Grass, U.E. (Name originally "Kross")

(Founder of Kingston, Ontario).

(born in Strasburg, Germany.

Date of birth?

Date of death? 1813

Place of burial?

Parents? -

Where did they live?

Wife's name?Swars (a Knickerbocker family
of New York)Further information - See copy of "The Grass Family" from
PIONEER LIFE ON THE BAY OF QUINTE -

Children -

Daniel

Middle District

Eve

do.

John

do.

MaryPeter

Kingston

.....
Dau.

Kingston

m. Col. John Harper

Elizabeth Harper, dau. of Col. John Harper, married
George Ashley, U.E. (Ashley, N. Carolina is named after this
family), and a daughter, Catharine Ashley married David See.
(See next page)

Michael Grass, Cont'd.

Stewart See, son of Russell See, married Sarah Mariah Kindall and in turn their son, Russell See married Edith Newlove a daughter of James Newlove of Macville.

The home of Russell See who is a direct descendant of Michael Grass ~~was~~ ^(near) Malton on the homestead of Sir James Aikens. Two sons, Kendall See, a teacher at Malton and John Newlove See.

(Hold for further information from Mr. Russell See.)

The first contingent of U.E.L.'s arrived in ^{Upper} Canada under Captain Michael Grass, who had been a prisoner of the French years before in old Fort Frontenac at Cataragui, now Kingston. He was granted the first township lot on which Kingston was founded.

(Dictaphone, 25th Sept. 1935) - Notes dictated when Mrs. Harvey
and Mrs. Colin Campbell were here, 24th Sept. '35.

RE MICHAEL GRASS

In the Loyalist list, See of See & Duggan, is a
descendant, and will have the story.

His sister, who died recently, had the whole record
and he will have them or know where they are.

Miss Muriel See ^{deceased} gave us all she
had.

MICHAEL GRASS.

Englishman, settled on the Upper Hudson. Fought in the Seven Years' War. Was held prisoner at Fort Frontenac. When Governor Carleton of New York needed someone to convoy the Loyalists he sent for Grass who went to Sorel, November, 1783. Captain Michael Grass, U.E. was the founder of Kingston. He married a Miss Swars who belonged to a Knickerbocker family. Their daughter married Col. John Harper who had a grant where the Kingston armouries now stand. He died intestate and the land reverted to the Crown.

Their dau. Elizabeth Harper married George Ashley, U.E., (Ashley, North Carolina, is named after this family). The Catharine Ashley, dau. of George & Elizabeth Ashley married David See, U.E. Pittsburgh Township.

Son of Catharine and David See, Stewart, married Sarah Mariah Kindall. Their son Russell See married Edith Newlove, dau. of James Newlove, of Macville, where they resided till the death of James Newlove, when they moved to Sir James Aiken's homestead near Malton. They had two sons, Kendall (teacher at Malton) and John Newlove See.

Old U. E. List.

Grass, Michael, - Kingston, - S.G. Capt. New York Militia.
Stamped Book, Provision List
1786.

Grass, Daniel, - M. Dist. - Son of Michael Grass.

Grass, Eve, now - do. - do. Dan. of ditto.

Wartman,

Grass, John, - do. - Son of ditto.

Grass, Mary, - - Daught. of Michael Grass.

Grass, Peter, - Kingston, - Son of Michael Grass.

Grass

23 January, 1934.

Mr. Russell See,
R. R. Malton,
Ontario.

Dear Mr. See:

re PEEL COUNTY HISTORY

In my forthcoming history I wish to give an adequate place to the United Empire Loyalists.

I was much interested to learn that you are a descendant of the celebrated Michael Grass.

Can you give me a history of your family, including whatever information you may have relating to Michael Grass previous to and after his settling in what is now Kingston?

Are your wife's people also United Empire Loyalists? If so, can you give me the name of the ancestor through whom they derive this distinction?

I shall so much appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Wm. Perkins Bull.

MS:F

3 February, 1934.

Miss Mildred M. See,
10 Milbrook Crescent,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Miss See:

re PEEL HISTORY

Your information re the Grass family history was most interesting. I am enclosing a copy of an Order-in-Council to Michael Grass for land in Caledon. You will notice this Michael Grass is listed as being of Grantham Township. What connection would he be to the Michael Grass of the Eastern District?

In the Centennial List of U. E. Loyalists, the names of James and John See, of the Loyal Rangers, appear. Was either of these your ancestor? And if so, can you give me some family history?

I shall much appreciate your assistance.

Yours faithfully,

Wm. Perkins Bull.

MS:F

22120
H. E.
HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO (Upper Canada).

By Wm. Canniff, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.,

Toronto, Ont.: Published by A. H. Hovey, 34 King St. W.

1872.

p. 550

CAPTAIN MICHAEL GRASS

Captain Michael Grass, the first settler of Kingston township, was a native of Germany. The period of his emigration to America is unknown. He was a saddler and harness-maker by trade, and for years plied his trade in Philadelphia to New York, for his son Peter was born in this city in 1770. According to the statement of his grandson who often heard the facts from his father, Peter Grass, soon after the commencement of the rebellion, Michael Grass was taken prisoner by the Indians, who were staying at Cataraqui. In this he is probably mistaken. We learn from ⁿanother source that it was during the previous w French war, which is more likely to be correct. It would seem that Grass and two other prisoners were not confined in the fort, but held in durance by a tribe of Indians, who permitted them to hunt, fish, &c. They made an effort to escape, but were caught and brought back. Again they attempted, carrying with them provisions, which they had managed to collect, sufficient to last them a week. But it was nine weeks before they reached an English settlement, one having died by the way from hunger and exposure. It was the knowledge which Grass had acquired of the territory at Cataraqui, while a

-2- Capt. Michael Grass.

prisoner, which led to his appointment to the leadership of a band of refugees at the close of the war.

It does not appear the Captain Grass occupied any office in the army during the war. His captaincy commenced upon his leaving New York with the seven vessels for Canada. By virtue of his captaincy, he was entitled to draw 3000 acres. Beside lot twenty-five in Kingston, he drew in fourth concession of Sidney nearly 2000 acres in one block.

Captain Grass had three sons, Peter, John and Daniel, and three daughters. Daniel, some years after, went sailing and was never heard from. Peter and John settled in the Second Town and became the fathers respectively of families. The land drawn by the captain, and the 600 acres by each of his children, has proved a lasting source of wealth and comfort to his descendants.

p. 551

Captain Grass naturally took a leading part at least during the first years of the settlement at Kingston. He was possessed of some education, and was a man of excellent character, with a strict sense of honor. Although opportunities presented themselves to accumulate property at the expense of others, he refused to avail himself of all such. He was appointed a magistrate at an early period, and as such performed many of the first marriages in Kingston. In religion, he was an adherent to the Church of England. Probably he had been brought

-3- Capt. Michael Grass.

up a Lutheran. His old "Dutch" Bible still is read by an old German in E. nesttown; but it seems a pity that although ~~some~~ none of the Grass family can read its time worn pages, it should be allowed to remain in other hands than the descendants of the old captain.

In connection, it may be mentioned that some time before the war, a poor German, a baker by trade, came to New York. Michael Grass assisted him into business, and even gave him a suit of clothes. When the refugees came to Canada, this baker accompanied them. He settled in Quebec, where he amassed eventually great wealth, and the P---- family are not unknown to the public.

PIONEER LIFE ON THE BAY OF QUINTE
INCLUDING GENEALOGIES OF OLD FAMILIES and Biographical
Sketches of Representative Citizens.

73

Rolph & Clark, Ltd., Toronto.

p. 344.

THE GRASS FAMILY

Captain Michael Grass was born in Strasburg, Germany. The name is said to have been originally "Kress," the German word for Grass. Were the change instituted by the old Loyalist himself, it must have occurred shortly after his emigration to the Western world; for the name appears under its present form in the power of attorney granted to him by George III. in 1783. During the hostilities that prevailed between Great Britain and France throughout North America, prior to the American Revolution, Michael Grass rendered loyal service to the British Crown and being captured by the enemy was for some time held as a prisoner of war at the French settlement of Cataragui. He made his escape and fled to what was then the English province of New York. Soon after Cataragui was captured by the English under Colonel Bradstreet; the garrison was transported to Montreal, and the French fortress and village of Cataragui was ceased to exist. Its admirable location, however, at the source of the River St. Lawrence, could not long escape the attention of the British Government; and, it was mainly through the instrumentality of Captain Michael Grass, that the important city of Kingston--so intensely loyal to the British Crown--arose upon the ruins of his

former place of captivity.

It is needless to say that Michael Grass served in the Royal ranks during the American Revolution; his sash and sabre with its massive handle of solid ~~see~~ silver are still cherished heirlooms among his descendants.

In 1783 began that remarkable movement in North American history, known as the United Empire Loyalists movement from the United States to Canada. Many of the intrepid patriots sailed from the Atlantic seaboard to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and, thence, a considerable number made their way to what is now the Province of Ontario.

p.345

It seemed to the British authorities desirable to direct this movement towards founding a colony at the head of the River St. Lawrence; and Michael Grass, on account of his keen intelligence, his proven loyalty, and his familiarity with this part of the country gained during, and prior to, his captivity, was frequently consulted by the general in command and eventually placed at the head of a band of loyalists, who in several ships, and under convoy of a British man-of-war, made their way from New York to Sorel. Hence a detachment under the command of Captain Grass penetrated to Collins Bay. Finding the soil west of the Bay, to be rocky, he is said to have declared that he had come too far to settle upon a rock. However this may be, ^{he} picked upon the present township of Kingston, and returned with his companions, for the winter, to Sorel. He assisted in the surveys, running himself the base line

-3- The Grass Family.

for the township of Kingston; and, under the power of attorney furnished- issued to him by His Majesty King George III he drew the lands for the loyalists, their sons and daughters; his own patents embraced one-third of the ~~pe~~ present city of Kingston.

He strongly recommended the creation of a separate province to the west of Quebec, and cordially welcomed the establishment of Upper Canada with the seat of government at First Town, or Kingston, as it began to be called by the time that Governor Simcoe arrived and began to organize what is now the Province of Ontario.

Captain Grass bestirred himself to promote the growth and prosperity of the new capital; and the present market, the site of the Court House, and the Macdonald park were presented by him by deed of gift to the city of Kingston, and to this day, worthily perpetuate his memory. He died on 25th April, 1813, having lived to see a flourishing city (of which he was the foremost citizen) arise upon the ^{ruins} ruins of his former place of captivity. That he was not unmindful of the great work that he had accomplished is evidenced by the following extract from a letter written by him two years before his death.

"Seven and twenty years have rolled away since my eyes for the second time beheld the shores of Cataraqui. In that space of time how many changes have taken place. How many of the seats of my associates are now vacant . . .

Yes,

-4- The Grass Family.

76

p.346

Yes, seven and twenty years ago scarce the vestige of a human habitation could be found in the whole extent of the Bay of Quinte. Not a settler had dared to penetrate the vast forests that circled its shores. Even on the spot now covered with stately edifices were to be seen only the bark-thatched wigwam of the savage or the newly erected tent of the hardy loyalists. That when the ear heard me it blessed me for being strong in my attachment to my sovereign and high in the confidence of my fellow subjects. I led the loyal band; I pointed out to them the site of their future metropolis and gained for persecuted principles, a sanctuary; for myself and followers, a home."

.....

Ruliff Grass, son of Robert Everett Grass and Nancy Purdy his wife, and great-grandson of Captain Michael Grass, was educated at the Stirling High School and at Victoria College. He engaged for some twenty years in mercantile business at Frankford, and then became, and still is, largely interested in the dredging business for the Canadian Government. He now resides in Toronto, where he is a leading citizen and recognized as a power in the financial world, being Vice-President of the Excelsior Life Insurance Co., director of the Ontario Bank, etc. Mr. Grass owns the sword and sash worn by his famous ancestor, Captain Michael Grass, and is thoroughly versed in the early history of Ontario.

.....

Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records Vols. 7-8.
Vol. 3 - Some Epochs in the Story of Old Kingston
By Miss Agnes Maule Machar - 2, The Coming of the Loyalists
P. 112.

MICHAEL GRASS.

Captain Grass who had owned a farm some thirty miles from New York, had once been for a short time a British prisoner of war with the French at Fort Frontenac. When he refused to enter the American service, and took refuge with his family within New York under British protection, the commander (Sir Guy Carleton, afterwards Lord Dorchester), much perplexed concerning the future of the numerous Loyalists in the city, sent for Captain Grass to obtain information as to the country about Cataragui. Finding that he gave a good report of it, the General asked whether he would undertake to conduct to the place as many of the Loyalist emigrants as might be willing to accompany him. After three days' consideration he agreed to become the leader of such a band; whereupon, notices were at once posted, inviting all who desired to go to enroll their names. A company of women and children was soon enrolled, and in vessels provided by the Government they set out to sea. Their little fleet of seven ships was nearly wrecked by the way, and they got no farther than Sorel that season, being obliged to live there through^{out} the winter, in such circumstances, which must have been dreary enough.

And now the men of the party had come to behold their promised land; and pitched their tents at

Michael Grass (cont)

Indain or Mississauga Point, already referred to as the site of an old Indian burying-ground, and of Frontenac's Conference. They surveyed the fair landscape about them, as Frontenac had done more than a century before; and Captain Grass tells us "there was no building to be seen, save the bark-thatched wigwams of the savage or the newly-erected tent of the hardy Loyalist"; for the ruined walls of Fort Frontenac, and its still standing tower would hardly count for much in the distance.

The wives and families soon followed the prospectors..... The eager settlers had to remain for some time, awaiting the surveying and numbering of the Townships, which were not allotted until July. Mean time other companies of refugees had arrived on a similar errand, and the Governor paid the place a visit. Then the time arrived for allocating the townships surveyed, the Governor gave Captain Grass the first choice for himself and the company he had led. He at once chose the first township, that of Kingston. Sir John Johnston, who had the second choice took the second township, now Ernesttown; Colonel Rogers the third, that of Fredericksburgh; and Major Vanalstine, the fourth, Adolphustown; while Colonel McDonell, with his company, took the fifth, that of Marysburgh.

Lennox and Addington Historical Society Papers Vols. 1-4.
Vol. 3 - The Casey Scrap Books. In Old-Time Graveyards.
From "Toronto Weekly Sun", August 9, 1899. P. 51

MICHAEL GRASS.

The body of Captain Grass now lies in what is known as the Methodist Cemetery at Cataraqui, just across the road from the burial place of Sir John MacDonald. There stands at the head of the grave a rough stone slab, projecting about one foot above the ground and bearing the simple inscription:

MICHAEL GRASS.

Died April 25th, 1813.

Aged 78 years.

DOMINION ARCHIVES. Manuscripts & Upper Canada.

U. E. Loyalists.

Loyalists - Memoirs of some of the Early Settlers in
Upper Canada.

p. 1. Reminiscences of James Richardson Esq., of
Clover Hill Toronto, written by himself

... I had it a few years since from JOHN GRASS, an old
and well known inhabitant of the township of Kingston
near Collins Bay who at the time he came with his
father was eleven years old.

Mr. Grass' statement, which I give as near as I can in
his own words and ~~ey~~ style is as follows.

My father MICHAEL GRASS, lived at the breaking
out of the Revolutionary War on a farm up the Hudson about
30 Miles above New York. He was a native of Germany,
but had lived most of his life in America.

When the Revolution commenced Genl. Herkemer
sent my father an invitation to join the Americans, and
offered him a Captaincy in their service. My father
replied "No" I have sworn allegiance to one King and
cannot serve any other," for this saying, he was driven
from his home and family, and obliged to take refuge
within the British lines at New York, his family shortly
followed.....

Michael Grass lived to a very advanced age, and died at
his son's the victim of a cancer in the face.

GRASS*Grass*

6 Nov. 1804 - May it please your Excellency -

In obedience to your Excellency's commands to enquire and examine into the pretensions of persons whose names are inserted upon the U. E. list - I have the honor to state that I have made some further progress, and now report that unless the following individuals can adduce proof of his or her being the head of a family before the Treaty of Separation in 1783, and of having joined the Royal Standard before that period, that they are not entitled to the same privilege as the original Loyalists who were resident in the late Colonies, and who did upon the Declaration of Independence join the Royal Standard before the said Treaty of Independence in 1783, vizt.:

Daniel Grass, son of Michael

*Peter Grass, son of Michael.

....

Inspector General's Office,

16 July 1804.

(sgnd) JOHN MCGILL

Insp. Genl.

*There may be a change and now. Shall
I send you.*

Dominion Archives - U.C. Land Petitions

-S- No. 19 101-167 1836

(145)

20 1-50 1836-7

To His Excellency Sir Francis B. Head Lieutenant
Governor of Upper Canada &c. IN COUNCIL

The Memorial of JOHN SEE of the Township of Pittsburgh
in the Midland District, eldest son of David ^S See, late of
the township of Lancaster in the Eastern District, a U.E.
Loyalist, deceased.

Humbly Sheweth -

That your Memorialist's late father came into Canada
a U.E.Loyalist from the State of New York with many other
U.E.Loyalists, a young man in the winter of 1785 and
settled in Lancaster aforesaid, where he remained until
his decease about 14 years since.

That during his life, he remained a loyal, true and
faithful subject to the Crown, and brought up his children
faithfully in the same principles.

That your Memorialist served during the late war in
the Glengarry Regiment of Militia, with the approbation of
his officers.

That your Memorialist's said Father neglected having
himself put on the U.E.List and has never received any land
or order for land from the Crown - That the annexed doc-
uments will certify the above statement.

Therefore your Memorialist humbly prays your Excellency
will be graciously pleased to order his said Father to be
put on the list of U.E.Loyalists to enable your Memorialist
to draw land as his son, to which he is entitled by the

JOHN SEE

-2-

by the bounty of his late Majesty George the third of
gracious memory, for which as in duty bound he shall
ever pray.

Dated Osnabruck, Eastern District, February 21st
1836.

JOHN SEE

I hereby certify that John See son of David See of
Lancaster in the Eastern District served during
the late war with the United States in the Glengarry
Regiment of Militia, faithfully and truly like a
loyal British Subject in Capt. Duncan (Greenfield) W.
McDonnell's Company.

February
Dated at Williamstown this 29th day of/1836.

.....Fraser
Adjutant Late Glengarry
Militia.

Back of petition -

Not recommended there being no proof of Petitioner's
father having joined the Royal Standard.

F.B.H.

Communicated 7 May 1836.

1836.
14
1822

DOMINION ARCHIVES. Manuscripts 4a Upper Canada.

U. E. Loyalists.

Loyalists - Memoirs of some of the Early Settlers in
Upper Canada.

p. 1. Reminiscences of James Richardson Esq., of
Clover Hill Toronto, written by himself

... I had it a few years since from JOHN GRASS, an old
and well known inhabitant of the township of Kingston
near Collins Bay who at the time he came with his
father was eleven years old.

Mr. Grass' statement, which I give as near as I can in
his own words and ~~my~~ style is as follows.

My father MICHAEL GRASS, lived at the breaking
out of the Revolutionary War on a farm up the Hudson about
30 Miles above New York. He was a native of Germany,
but had lived most of his life in America.

When the Revolution commenced Genl. Herkemer
sent my father an invitation to join the Americans, and
offered him a Captaincy in their service. My father
replied "No" I have sworn allegiance to one King and
cannot serve any other," for this saying, he was driven
from his home and family, and obliged to take refuge
within the British lines at New York, his family shortly
followed.....

Michael Grass lived to a very advanced age, and died at
his son's the victim of a cancer in the face.

Lennox and Addington Historical Society Papers Vols. 1-4.
Vol. 3 - The Casey Scrap Books. In Old-Time Graveyards.
From "Toronto Weekly Sun", August 9, 1899. P. 51

MICHAEL GRASS.

The body of Captain Grass now lies in what is known as the Methodist Cemetery at Cataragui, just across the road from the burial place of Sir John MacDonald. There stands at the head of the grave a rough stone slab, projecting about one foot above the ground and bearing the simple inscription:

MICHAEL GRASS.

Died April 25th, 1813.

Aged 78 years.

Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records Vols. 7-8.
Vol. 8 - Some Epochs in the Story of Old Kingston
By Miss Agnes Maule Machar - 2, The Coming of the Loyalists
P. 112.

MICHAEL GRASS.

Captain Grass who had owned a farm some thirty miles from New York, had once been for a short time a British prisoner of war with the French at Fort Frontenac. When he refused to enter the American service, and took refuge with his family within New York under British protection, the commander (Sir Guy Carleton, afterwards Lord Dorchester), much perplexed concerning the future of the numerous Loyalists in the city, sent for Captain Grass to obtain information as to the country about Cataragui. Finding that he gave a good report of it, the General asked whether he would undertake to conduct to the place as many of the Loyalist emigrants as might be willing to accompany him. After three days' consideration he agreed to become the leader of such a band; whereupon, notices were at once posted, inviting all who desired to go to enroll their names. A company of women and children was soon enrolled, and in vessels provided by the Government they set out to sea. Their little fleet of seven ships was nearly wrecked by the way, and they got no farther than Sorel that season, being obliged to live there through^{ou}t the winter, ^{which} in such circumstances, must have been dreary enough.

And now the men of the party had come to behold their promised land, and pitched their tents at

Michael Grass (cont)

Indain or Mississauga Point, already referred to as the site of an old Indian burying-ground, and of Frontenac's Conference. They surveyed the fair landscape about them, as Frontenac had done more than a century before; and Captain Grass tells us "there was no building to be seen, save the bark-thatched wigwams of the savage or the newly-erected tent of the hardy Loyalist"; for the ruined walls of Fort Frontenac, and its still standing tower would hardly count for much in the distance.

The wives and families soon followed the prospectors..... The eager settlers had to remain for some time, awaiting the surveying and numbering of the Townships, which were not allotted until July. Mean time other companies of refugees had arrived on a similar errand, and the Governor paid the place a visit. Then the time arrived for allocating the townships surveyed, the Governor gave Captain Grass the first choice for himself and the company he had led. He at once chose the first township, that of Kingston. Sir John Johnston, who had the second choice took the second townshi^N, now Ernesttown; Colonel Rogers, the third, that of Fredericksburgh; and Major Vanalstine, the fourth, Adolphustown; while Colonel McDonell, with his company, took the fifth, that of Marysburgh.

(A.O.12/32)
p.28

MICHAEL GRASS

(New Claim)

Account of Losses sustained by Michael Grass
late of Tryon County and Province of New York
during the unhappy Dissentions in America.

To Amount of Real Estate	£1,198.--
To Amount of Personal "	572.12.-
	<u>£1,770.12.-</u>

Montreal, 20th February, 1788.

Evidence on the Claim of Michael Grass
late of Tryon County and Province of
New York.

Claimant Sworn,

Says he was at Sorell and Cataragui in the
Fall 1783, he sent a claim home by Mr. Kyler and
Captain Gammersall.

Is a Native of Germany, came to America in
1753, was living in Tryon County when Rebellion
broke out, from the first took part with the
British Government, in 1777 he went to New York
where he continued to reside, and on all occasions
turned out as Volunteer.

Had an appointment as first Lieutenant in one
of the companies of the City Militia in 1780.

Produces his appointment from Major Patterson,
came away from New York before the Evacuation, being
appointed Captain of Militia for a Company of Loyalists
who were going from New York to Canada.

Produces this Commission from Sir Guy Carleton
in July 1783.

In consequence of this appointment he came to
Canada - has been employed in settling the Loyalists
at Cataragui for which he has received nothing, above
900 Persons came under his Direction.

Michael Grass - cont'd.

Page 2

Now resides at Cataraqui.

Withdraws his claim for his farm inserted in his first Schedule as he has saved it and for several Articles of Personal Property which he has recovered. Produces a new Account.

Had a house at New York, he built it after he went to New York in 1780 - It was on Ground belonging to one Bateman. Says this was a vacant Lot, and he built upon it in consequence of Permission given by the Mayor agreeable to a Proclamation of Sir Henry Clinton's. The building cost him 165 Guineas.

Lost Furniture to a considerable amount. This was in the House at his Farm in Tryon County while Claimant was at New York - The Rebels seized all his Furniture and Stock, and sold it at Public Vendue, he had very good Furniture, a stock of Sadlery Goods worth at least £150.

They took his farming Utensils at the same time, Lost four Horses, five Cows, 8 Sheep.

Produces at the foot of his account the affidavits of 2 persons to the Truth of the Account now given in Sworn at Cataraqui.

Peter Carlow Sworn,

Knew Claimant when he lived on the Mohawk, he was always very Loyal, he went off to New York to join the British Troops because he was called upon to join the Rebels.

He was in good circumstances, he was a Farmer and sadler, he had a very good stock, he used to have a quantity of tools and sadlery goods.

He had Horses and Cows, had a Waggon and Carts.

(A.O.12/64)
p.268

Page 3

MICHAEL GRASS

NEW CLAIM

Michael Grass late of Tryon County

Claim

Amount of property - - - - £995.19/-

Determination 22nd February, 1788.

Loyalty
Bore Arms

The Claimant is a Loyalist and Bore Arms
in Support of the British Government.

Losses

Personal
Estate

Various Articles of Personal Property - - - £150.-.-

1788 Dec.17th Allowed on revision for a House built at)
New York after olt. joined British Army)
Loss Proved ----

£ 50.-.-

£200.-.-

Claim Withdrawn

The Claim for a Farm in Tryon County

*
(crossed out thus)

* Claim disallowed.

(The Claim for a House at New York being
all'd on revision (built during the Troubles

(sic)

Resides at Cataraqui.

(A.O.12/109)
p.156

MICHAEL GRASS

Page 4

No.1513

Name of Claimant -	Michael Grass	
Province	-	New York
Claim for Loss of Property	-	995.--.19
Sum originally allowed	-	150.--.-
Sum as allowed on Revision	-	200.--.-
Total Sum payable under Act Parl't.		200.--.-
Ballance after such Receipt	-	200.--.-
Final Ballance	-	200.--.-

Family History*File* SEE

John See applied for a grant of land in 1836 as a son of David See who he claimed should have been entered on the U.E.List having served in the American Revolution. For further information see GRASS file.

Wm. Perkins Bull K. C.

Dear Sir;-

I can give you the names of Capt. Michael Grass's U. E. descendants but I have no further information relating to his settling in Kingston.

Capt Michael Grass U. E.

married Miss ~~Snary~~ U. E. *Sway?*

Miss Grass married John Harper U. E.

George Ashley U.E. married Elizabeth Harper U.E.

David See married Catharine Ashley U.E.

Russell See m. - - - *had one, dau.*

Joseph had one of name.

Lennox and Addington Historical Society Papers Vols. 1-4.
Vol. 3 - The Casey Scrap Books. In Old-Time Graveyards.
From "Toronto Weekly Sun", August 9, 1899. P. 51

MICHAEL GRASS.

The body of Captain Grass now lies in what is known as the Methodist Cemetery at Cataract, just across the road from the burial place of Sir John MacDonald. There stands at the head of the grave a rough stone slab, projecting about one foot above the ground and bearing the simple inscription:

MICHAEL GRASS.

Died April 25th, 1813.

Aged 78 years.

1813
78
—
1735

Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records Vols. 7-8.
 Vol. 8 - Some Epochs in the Story of Old Kingston
 By Miss Agnes Maule Machar - 2, The Coming of the Loyalists
 P. 112.

MICHAEL GRASS.

Captain Grass who had owned a farm some thirty miles from New York, had once been for a short time a British prisoner of war with the French at Fort Frontenac. When he refused to enter the American service, and took refuge with his family within New York under British protection, the commander (Sir Guy Carleton, afterwards Lord Dorchester), much perplexed concerning the future of the numerous Loyalists in the city, sent for Captain Grass to obtain information as to the country about Cataragui. Finding that he gave a good report of it, the General asked whether he would undertake to conduct to the place as many of the Loyalist emigrants as might be willing to accompany him. After three days' consideration he agreed to become the leader of such a band; whereupon, notices were at once posted, inviting all who desired to go to enroll their names. A company of women and children was soon enrolled, and in vessels provided by the Government they set out to sea. Their little fleet of seven ships was nearly wrecked by the way, and they got no farther than Sorel that season, being obliged to live there through^{out} the winter, ^{which} in such circumstances, must have been dreary enough.

And now the men of the party had come to behold their promised land, and pitched their tents at

Michael Grass (cont)

Indain or Mississauga Point, already referred to as the site of an old Indian burying-ground, and of Frontenac's Conference. They surveyed the fair landscape about them, as Frontenac had done more than a century before; and Captain Grass tells us "there was no building to be seen, save the bark-blatched wigwams of the savage or the newly-erected tent of the hardy Loyalist"; for the ruined walls of Fort Frontenac, and its still standing tower would hardly count for much in the distance.

His wives and families soon followed the prospectors..... The eager settlers had to remain for some time, awaiting the surveying and numbering of the Townships, which were not allotted until July. Mean time other companies of refugees had arrived on a similar errand, and the Governor paid the place a visit. When the time arrived for allocating the townships surveyed, the Governor gave Captain Grass the first choice for himself and the company he had led. He at once chose the first township, that of Kingston. Sir John Johnston, who had the second choice took the second township, now Ernesttown; Colonel Rogers the third, that of Fredericksburgh; and Major Vanalstine, the fourth, Adolphustown; while Colonel McDonell, with his company, took the fifth, that of Marysburgh.

ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PAPERS AND RECORDS

Vol. XXVII.

Toronto Published by the Society 1931.

p. 9. Chap. 1. The QUINTE LOYALISTS OF 1784.

By P. H. Bryce, M.A., M.D.

In a return of Loyalists who had arrived at Sorel from New York on 28 August, 1783, the position of Capt. Michael Grass regarding Kingston Township is made clear. He is stated to have told Gen. Guy Carleton in New York that he had been a prisoner in Cataraqui in 1755-6, and that it was a fine country. He was told to collect a shipload of Loyalists, which was sent to Quebec and thence to Montreal. This return of Loyalists at Sorel of 28 August 1783, gives the following:

Capt. Michael Grass, Corps, 27 men total with families..74

Capt. Peter Ruttan Corps, 24 men do 73

.....

S 22 U. E.

20154

See

Harmans Sea, Ernest Low

Soldier Loyal Rangers

(U. E. List - Cannon Launch.)

U. S. List - (Centennial)

James See

Soldier Loyal Rangers

John See

.. ..

U. S.

See

Lot 6 Con. 7 S.D. Toronto Gore

1925 - Edith Jane See

Edith Jane newlove^V M. Russell See

They have 2 sons and at present are living on lot.

Jack - Guelph Agr. College

Rendall - at home

KINGSTON TO MARK LOYALISTS' COMING TO UPPER CANADA

Many Hundreds of Descendants Will Attend Event
This Summer

150TH ANNIVERSARY

(Canadian Press Despatch)

Kingston, Jan. 16—To this centre of Loyalist settlement, where flat-bottomed river boats found journey's end 150 years ago, descendants of these who manned them will throng this year by steamer, train and motor car.

Special observances at Kingston and surrounding communities this summer are designed to mark the passing of a century and a half; to recall the spirit of 10,000 men and women who forsook established homes in colonies revolting against the Crown, and chose to pioneer again on Cataract's forested shores.

Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties in Eastern Ontario were the chief areas of settlement for United Empire Loyalists, who came to Upper Canada in 1784. The first contingent arrived under Captain Michael Grass, who had been a prisoner of the French years before in old Fort Frontenac at Cataract, now Kingston. They travelled from New York to Sorel, Que., in seven King's ships in care of a man-o'-war, and covered the last 200 miles up the St. Lawrence from Sorel in batteaux.

Captain Grass was granted the first township lot, on which Kingston was founded. The second went to Rev. John Stuart, "Father of the Church of England in Upper Canada," and first rector of St. George's. Sir Campbell Stuart of the London Times is a descendant, and maintains his forebear's grave in Kingston.

The noted Indian Chief, Brant, and his sister, Mollie Brant, widow of Sir William Johnson, head of the Department of Indian Affairs in New York before the Revolutionary War, lived in Kingston in early Loyalist days.

Of late years increasing interest in the Loyalists has been marked by extension of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Ontario. Two years ago the Kingston Historical Society sought to have the names of all descendants in this district enrolled in preparation for the 150th anniversary celebration. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board has marked many sites dating back to pioneer days in Upper Canada.

1 *Grass*
U.E.
Dominion Archives - U.C. Land Petitions

AL

26158

-S- No. 19 101-167 1836

(143)

55

20 1-50 1836-7

*dup
Oct 14/36*
To His Excellency Sir Francis B. Head Lieutenant
Governor of Upper Canada &c. IN COUNCIL

The Memorial of JOHN SEE of the Township of Pittsburgh
in the Midland District, eldest son of David ^SSee, late of
the township of Lancaster in the Eastern District, a U.E.
Loyalist, deceased.

Humbly Sheweth -

That your Memorialist's late father came into Canada
a U.E.Loyalist from the State of New York with many other
U.E.Loyalists, a young man in the winter of 1785 and
settled in Lancaster aforesaid, where he remained until
his decease about 14 years since.

That during his life, he remained a loyal, true and
faithful subject to the Crown, and brought up his children
faithfully in the same principles.

That your Memorialist served during the late war in
the Glengarry Regiment of Militia, with the approbation of
his officers.

That your Memorialist's said Father neglected having
himself put on the U.E.List and has never received any land
or order for land from the Crown - That the annexed doc-
uments will certify the above statement.

Therefore your Memorialist humbly prays your Excellency
will be graciously pleased to order his said Father to be
put on the list of U.E.Loyalists to enable your Memorialist
to draw land as his son, to which he is entitled by the

JOHN SEE

-2-

56

by the bounty of his late Majesty George the third of gracious memory, for which as in duty bound he shall ever pray.

Dated Osnabruck, Eastern District, February 21st 1836.

JOHN SEE

I hereby certify that John See son of David See of Lancaster in the Eastern District served during the late war with the United States in the Glengarry Regiment of Militia, faithfully and truly like a loyal British Subject in Capt. Duncan (Greenfield) W. McDonnell's Company.

February
Dated at Williamstown this 29th day of/1836.

.....Fraser
Adjutant Late Glengarry

Militia.

Back of petition -

Not recommended there being no proof of Petitioner's father having joined the Royal Standard.

F.B.H.

Communicated 7 May 1836.

DOMINION ARCHIVES. Manuscripts & Upper Canada.

U. E. Loyalists.

57

Loyalists - Memoirs of some of the Early Settlers in
Upper Canada.

p. 1. Reminiscences of James Richardson Esq., of
Clover Hill Toronto, written by himself

... I had it a few years since from JOHN GRASS, an old
and well known inhabitant of the township of Kingston
near Collins Bay who at the time he came with his
father was eleven years old.

Mr. Grass' statement, which I give as near as I can in
his own words and ~~sy~~ style is as follows.

My father MICHAEL GRASS, lived at the breaking
out of the Revolutionary War on a farm up the Hudson about
30 Miles above New York. He was a native of Germany,
but had lived most of his life in America.

When the Revolution commenced Genl. Herkemer
sent my father an invitation to join the Americans, and
offered him a Captaincy in their service. My father
replied "No" I have sworn allegiance to one King and
cannot serve any other," for this saying, he was driven
from his home and family, and obliged to take refuge
within the British lines at New York, his family shortly
followed.....

Michael Grass lived to a very advanced age, and died at
his son's the victim of a cancer in the face.

Dominion Archives,
U.C. Land Petitions

58

-G-
No. 12 1-159 1817-20
(No. 82)

To His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland K.C.B.
Lieutenant Governor of the province of Upper Canada
&c In Council

The petition of Henry Grass of the township of
Grantham, yeoman, humbly sheweth

That your petitioner and his brothers,
David, Jeremiah, Michael and John Grass, are the sons
of the late Michael Grass and that there is also a
daughter (Mary Grass of the township of Niagara,
spinster) of the Michael Grass whom your petitioner
is given to understand were directed to petition for
the allowance of 300 acres of land which the Honourable
Council recommended to the heirs of the said Michael
Grass. Your petitioner therefore humbly prays in
behalf of his said brothers and sister that an order
may issue to allow them to locate the said land in
one of the townships now surveying. And your petitioner
will ever pray.

York April 20th 1819

Henry Grass

MHM

**First English Record Book of The Dutch Reformed Church
in Sleepy Hollow**

MEMBERSHIP

The following persons were received into full membership
on confession of their faith:

Aug. 17, 1786.

were received into full membership in the
congregation of Tarrytown on confession
of their faith the following persons, viz.
Paulus See and his wife, Catrena See;

.....

File
with
Grass

(Family Herald, 7th February 1934)

KINGSTON CELEBRATES LOYALIST' COMING

BY JEAN RITCHIE ANDERSON

When the Township of Kingston was first occupied, Deputy Surveyor Collins began to plan for the town and fort. Captain Grass was given the first lot on the land adjoining the reserve for the town. This grant covers a large part of the present city. Another of the esteemed founders who was also on the spot was the Rev. John Stuart. His lot, which lay next to that of Michael Grass, is now one of the most desirable residential parts of Kingston. Joseph Brant, the famous Indian chief was among the earliest settlers, he having come from Sorel with some of the Pioneers. At the same time came Neil McLean and James Clark, Captain Crawford and Lieutenant Brown, Sovereign and Lawrence.

U.E.
duplicate

copy in
U.E. general
sch. of gene.

(Family Herald, 7th February 1934)

KINGSTON CELEBRATES LOYALIST'COMING

BY JEAN RITCHIE ANDERSON

The influence of the Rev. Dr. Stuart went far towards making Kingston what it was in the early days of Upper Canada. In his "Parish Register of Kingston," Dr. A. H. Young says regarding him:

"From no single house in Upper Canada probably, unless it were Bishop Strachan's 'Palace' in York, or his parsonage in Cornwall, did influences proceed more varied and more potent than those which proceeded from Dr. Stuart's house near Kingston. There liberal hospitality was dispensed, and there, two Chief Justices and a Solicitor-General of Lower Canada were trained. The two chief Justices also became baronets--Sir James Stuart and Sir John Beverley Robinson, whom Stuart called his sixth son and for whose education he had become responsible on the death of the young boy's father, Christopher Robinson."

(Family Herald, 7th February 1934)

KINGSTON CELEBRATES LOYALIST' COMING

BY JEAN RITCHIE ANDERSON

They, the Loyalists, were also provided with clothing for several years, including for the men shoes, Indian blankets for coats, and coarse cloth for trousers, while the women were given blanketing and other cloth for their garments.

(Family Herald, 28th February 1934)

THE BEGINNINGS OF TORONTO

BY JEAN RITCHIE ANDERSON

The first houses in Toronto were built by the French in 1749, under orders from Count Galissonniere, who wished to establish a trading post. The place was called Fort Rouille, or Fort Toronto, and is thought to have been made up of five buildings within a stockade. It covered one hundred and eighty feet of land, and was at the end of the bay, a league east of the River. During the Seven Years' War Vaudreuil ordered that Fort Rouille be abandoned, and before the Frenchmen left they burned down the buildings.

(Family Herald, 28th February 1934)

THE BEGINNINGS OF TORONTO

BY JEAN RITCHIE ANDERSON

The Honorable Richard Cartwright, grandfather of Sir Richard Cartwright, might be termed the "father of municipal government in what was then called "the Canadas (Upper and Lower Canada). While Colonel Simcoe was still Lieutenant-Governor, he, as chairman of the Quarter Sessions of the Midland District, submitted a plan for the incorporation of the Town of Kingston. As outlined by Dr. Adam Shortt in his "Municipal History" in "Canada and its Provinces," it will be seen that this was a prophecy of actual future conditions:

(Family Herald, 28th February 1934)

THE BEGINNINGS OF TORONTO

BY JEAN RITCHIE ANDERSON

Simcoe was impressed with Cartwright's suggestion but, as was his custom, he gave it the aristocratic angle in presenting it to the Home Government. He proposed that Kingston and Niagara be incorporated as cities, each having a mayor and six aldermen, to be justices of the peace, and a suitable number of common councillors. He suggested that the members of his corporation "be originally appointed by the Crown, and that the succession to vacant seats might be made in such manner as to render the election as little popular as possible, meaning such corporations to tend to the support of the aristocracy of the country."

The Duke of Portland, however, to whom Simcoe made his report, was even more fearful of the common people than the Lieutenant-Governor, for he discouraged the Proposal, as being likely to "foster a taste for self-government."

Sagebrush Alder

25169

Russell See, great grandson

of Michael Grass, U. E.

married Edith Newlove
dau. of James Newlove
and lived on Sir James
Arken's homestead near
Malton.

Grass

Newline

Wm. Perkins Bull K. C.

Dear Sir:-

I can give you the names of Capt. Michael Grass's U. E. descendants but I have no further information relating to his settling in Kingston.

Capt Michael Grass U. E.

married Miss Snary U. E. *Swary?*

Miss Grass married John Harper U. E.

George Ashley U.E. married Elizabeth Harper U.E.

David See married Catharine Ashley U.E.

Russell See m -

newline dau.

720: newline / macville

Michael Grass

To His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland K.C.B.
Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada and Major General
Commanding His Majesty's Forces therein &c &c
In Council

The petition of the children of Michael Grass
late of the Township of Grantham, District of Niagara,
deceased, humbly sheweth

That your petitioner's father served His
Majesty as a private soldier in the American Revolution-
ary War, in a corps of Rangers commanded by
Lieutenant Colonel John Butler - was disbanded at
the reduction of the said corps on the 21st day of
June 1784, as will appear by the annexed certificate
from the officer of the company in which he served,
and that he went to the States as soon as he was
discharged to look after his aged parents, whom he
found in very indigent circumstances, and too old to
be removed in this province, had therefore to remain
with them until they died. That your petitioner's
father came to the province with his family in the
year 1801 and purchased land in the township of Grantham
at which place he died in November 1812, from sickness
contracted while on service in the campaign of that
year. That your petitioner's father never received

Michael Grass

any land from the Crown and that the U.E. List was formed before he returned to this Province. And from what your petitioners can learn he never applied to have his name inserted upon it.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to cause their late father's name to be inserted on the U.E. List, and to allow them to participate in His Majesty's most gracious bounty in land as the children of a U.E. Loyalist.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

David Grass

In behalf of himself,
his brothers and sister

Niagara 22nd February 1819

Michael Grass

I hereby certify that Michael Grass late of the Township of Grantham District of Niagara, deceased, served His Majesty in the Revolutionary War as a private soldier in a corps of Rangers commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John Butler that he was discharged at the reduction of said corps on the 24th day of June 1784. That he belonged to the company in which I did duty. That he left Niagara as soon as he was discharged and went to the States where he remained for a number of years to take care of his aged parents and that he returned to this Province with his family about eighteen or nineteen years ^{and} bought lands in the Township of Grantham where he remained untill he died in 1812. That he was a good obedient soldier, an honest industrious farmer and a loyal subject to the King and that his sons are honest industrious and sober young men and loyal subjects.

P. Ball (?) J.P.

Niagara March 20th 1819 . Lieut. late Butlers Rangers

Michael Grass

5
This may certify that Michael Grass late of
Grantham in the district of Niagara served as a
private soldier in Butlers Rangers and was regularly
discharged at the reduction of said corps on the
24th June 1784. Had been an inhabitant of the province
of New York previous to the American Rebellion. M.
Grass left this country as stated by Peter Ball Esq.
in the annexed certificate. M. Grass and his sons
have ever been considered as loyal and good people
and deserving attention.

Ralfe Clench

Lt. Butlers Rangers

Privilege granted in the name of Michael Grass formerly
of Butler's Rangers for 300 acres as military claimant

Michael Grass

York 18 October 1819

I do hereby certify that the name of the daughter of the late Michael Grass of Grantham, my father, formerly of Butler's Rangers, alluded to in a petition lately presented to His Excellency the Lt. Governor in Council and on which the children of said Michael Grass were ordered the 300 acres of land to which he would have been entitled as a military claimant is Mary and that she resides in the Township of Niagara and is a spinster.

John Grass

26176

HP

Dominion Archives,
U.C. Land Petitions

-3-

No. 12 1-159 1817-20
(No. 82)

To His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland K.C.B.
Lieutenant Governor of the province of Upper Canada
&c In Council

The petition of Henry Grass of the township of
Grantham, yeoman, humbly sheweth

That your petitioner and his brothers,
David, Jeremiah, Michael and John Grass, are the sons
of the late Michael Grass and that there is also a
daughter (Mary Grass of the township of Niagara,
spinster) of the Michael Grass whom your petitioner
is given to understand were directed to petition for
the allowance of 300 acres of land which the Honourable
Council recommended to the heirs of the said Michael
Grass. Your petitioner therefore humbly prays in
behalf of his said brothers and sister that an order
may issue to allow them to locate the said land in
one of the townships now surveying. And your petitioner
will ever pray.

York April 20th 1819

Henry Grass

25177

Affidavit of Samuel Whitney of Twp. of Stamford, that he has
been across Lot 7, Con. E. Caledon, as described in the an-
nexed location ticket and that said lot, is a cedar and hemlock
swamp, and what part of Lot 6, he has seen is the same that
in his opinion it is unfit for cultivation and that he would
not do the settling duties for the land.

29 Apr. 1820,

Thomas Dickson, J.P.

Note on back - Returned unfit for cultivation.

*Awaiting reply to
letter that Mrs Scott
sent*

CALEDON, Con. 1, E. H. S., Lots #1 - 14 incl.

E. $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 6.

Michael Grass
Michael
2

Under an Order in Council of the 29th September 1819 three hundred Acres of land are located in the Name of Michael Grass late of Grantham deceased, being the lots Number Seven and the East half of Lot Number Six in the first Concession East of the Center Road in the Township of Caledon in the Home District, his military allowance as a private Soldier in Butler's Rangers during the first American War, subject to the Settlement duties.

Given at the Surveyor

General's Office at York

U. C. this 27th of Oct. 1819.

Thos. Ridout.

Survey. Gen'l.

Niagara District

sub

Personally appeared before me Thomas Dickson Esq. one of His Majesty's Justices of the peace in said district, Samuel Whitney of the township of Stamford who being duly sworn depose and saith, that he has been across lot No. 7 in the first Con. of the Township of Caledon, as described in the annexed location ticket and that said lot, is a cedar and hemlock swamp, and what part of No. 6 he has seen is the same that in his opinion it is unfit for cultivation and that he would

CALEDON, Con. 1, E. H. S., Lots #1 - 14, incl.

E. $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 6.

not do the settling duties for the land.

Sworn before me at

Queenston 29th April, 1820. (Sgd.)

Samuel Whitney.

Thomas Dickson J. P.

Land Book K. Upper Can. 1919-1920 P. 56

24 March 1919

U. S. L.

David Grass - Praying that his father's
name may be placed on the U. S. List.

(note) The Petitioner's Father's name
cannot be admitted on the U. S. List -
he having returned to the Province
after the U. S. List was closed.
The children of Michael Grass may
petition for their Father's Lands
as a military claimant - provided
he has drawn no Lands in his
lifetime.

Grass